

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension of)	
)	
the Educator Certificate of)	ORDER OF
)	
Thaddeus J. Dixon,)	REVOCATION
)	
Certificate # 216837)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this certificate revocation matter on December 7, 2004. On October 26, 2004, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Thaddeus J. Dixon a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate number 216837 on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. Said notice was sent by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Mr. Dixon received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt. Mr. Dixon did not request a hearing within the time frame specified in the notice letter. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Mr. Dixon's teaching certificate # 216837.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Dixon holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over four years of teaching experience. On August 16, 2004, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission revoked Mr. Dixon's Georgia teaching certificate after he admitted having had oral sex with a female student in December 2002, while employed in a Georgia school district.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1991). Just cause includes “Unprofessional conduct ...Immorality, and ... Any conduct involving moral turpitude.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is sufficient evidence to support its decision to revoke Mr. Dixon’s certificate #216837.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary Jones

Dr. Mary E. Jones

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

December 7, 2004